

DISTRICT II ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes – August 20, 2001

The District II Advisory Board meeting was held at 7 p.m. at the Rockwell Branch Library, 5939 E. 9th Street North.

Members Present

Vice-Mayor Joe Pisciotte
David Babich
Martha Bruce Fair
Kevin Bright*
Tom Byrne
Michele Chauncey
Charlotte Foster
Larry Frutiger*
John Fuller
Tim Goodpasture

Members Absent

Shirley Jefferson
Mike Jones
Mike Pompeo
Kathy Wegner

City of Wichita Staff

Jim Armour, Public Works
Carl Gipson, Public Works
Steve Lackey, Public Works
Mike Lindebak, Public Works
Donte Martin, CMO

Guests

Maxine Armstrong
John C. Byers
Dan Chambers
Shirley Clapp
Betty Craig
Daryl Crotts
Floydeane Day
Roger Ellis
Marie Gillespie
Cecile Kellenberger
Tom Kelph
Jim Lininger
Christine Ryan
Phil Ryan
G. W. Watson
Nancy Weber
Max Weddle

* Denotes alternate DAB member

Council Member Joe Pisciotte called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

Michele Chauncey (Foster) moved the agenda be approved as submitted.
The motion passed (7-0).

Martha Bruce Fair (Foster) moved the minutes of the August 6th, 2001 meeting be approved as submitted. The motion passed (7-0).

No items were submitted for the public agenda, planning agenda, unfinished business agenda, or the traffic agenda.

New Business

1. Improvements to Orme Street

Carl Gipson, Public Works, presented proposed improvements to Orme Street east of Oliver. These improvements will provide an additional thoroughfare south of Kellogg during and after construction of the Kellogg flyover. The project will be completed in five phases with the first

phase tentatively scheduled to begin within the next eight months. This first phase will provide a bridge crossing over Dry Creek.

Michele Chauncey asked if the project would be completed prior to the Rock Road project. **Gipson** replied the project should be completed prior to completion of the Rock Road project.

Charlotte Foster asked if Orme would be widened east of Woodlawn. **Gipson** responded that Orme would not be widened in this area.

David Babich asked if there would be any accompanying changes to parking in the area. **Gipson** replied this project should not result in any changes to parking in the area.

Charlotte Foster asked if there is any expected increase in traffic due to construction on Kellogg. **Gipson** responded Orme would not be signed as a detour. Public Works will monitor the area in order to minimize negative side effects including increased traffic.

Action taken: Received and filed.

Board Agenda

2. Rock Road Improvements 22nd Street North to 29th Street North

Mike Lindebak, City Engineer, presented designs for improvements to the Rock Road corridor. These improvements are being considered based on the recommendations of the Rock Road Corridor Study conducted a few years ago. Each design incorporates suggestions from the corridor study in order to meet the needs of the 30,000 traffickers projected in the 2030 traffic plan.

Three different designs were presented, including 5, 6, and 7 lane alternatives. With the increase in total number of available traffic lanes there will be a need to acquire right-of-way. The amount of right-of-way to be acquired will be based on the number of lanes included in the final design. Regardless of the amount of right-of-way acquired there will still be enough available space for sidewalks on each side of the street.

Affected homeowner associations were invited to attend the DAB meeting and express their concerns with the project. Homeowner association questions included: 1) will the cost of the project be assessed to adjacent property owners; 2) will there be an accompanying increase in noise due the widening of Rock Road and will the City of Wichita install walls similar to those on Kellogg for noise reduction; 3) will the proposed medians be landscaped; 4) will there be any additional traffic lights installed; and 5) will the City of Wichita replace any trees that are removed because of this project.

Steve Lackey, Public Works Director, and **Mike Lindebak** addressed each of the questions asked by citizens in attendance. The answers provided were: 1) there are no assessments associated with the designs presented; 2) there are many variables that must be factored when determining noise levels, therefore it is difficult to speculate as to what the noise levels will be after completion of

this project, in any event the architectural walls on Kellogg have minimal effects on noise levels; 3) depending on the layout of the final design the medians may be landscaped, if so irrigation and maintenance will be provided by the City of Wichita; 4) each intersection will be evaluated to see if the warrants are met for a traffic signal; 5) trees removed as a part of the project may be replaced through the City of Wichita's tree planting program.

Phil Ryan, Penstemon HOA, expressed his feeling that a traffic light near Penstemon is a necessity.

Roger Ellis, Tallgrass Executive Park, asked what criteria are used to determine the need for traffic signals.

Lindebak replied traffic volume and warrants determine the need for traffic signals.

Vice-Mayor Pisciotte thanked everyone in attendance for sharing his or her concerns. **Pisciotte** expressed the need to balance the community's interests, both business and residential, as we design a safer thoroughfare that improves the quality of life of area residents.

Action taken: No action taken.

2002-2003 Budget

Vice-Mayor Pisciotte highlighted various sections of the recently adopted budget for fiscal year 2002-2003. Among the items highlighted: 1) the increase in police officers; 2) more money geared toward park maintenance and street cleaning; 3) the construction of a new south branch library; 4) improvements to the river corridor; 5) once again there will be no accompanying tax increase.

Action taken: No action taken.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:32.

Respectfully submitted,

Donte Martin
Neighborhood Assistant
District II